AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A polymer composition comprising:
a linear biocompatible polymer including a plurality of inclusion hosts, and
linking molecules, each linking molecule comprising at least two moieties that form inclusion complexes with the inclusion hosts,
wherein the linking molecules crosslink the polymer through inclusion complexes.

2. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 1, wherein the inclusion hosts are cyclodextrin moieties.

3. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 1, further comprising at least one biologically active compound or a prodrug form thereof.

4. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active compound is a nucleic acid.

5. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 4, wherein the nucleic acid is provided in a delivery system selected from a virus, a polymer, and a liposome.

6. (withdrawn) A method for transfecting a cell with a nucleic acid, comprising contacting the cell with a polymer composition of claim 4.

7. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 3, wherein the compound is a polypeptide or a small organic molecule.

8. (withdrawn) A method for administering a biologically active compound to a patient, comprising administering to the patient a polymer composition of claim 3.

9. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 3, wherein the compound is a protein or polypeptide.

10. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active compound or prodrug form thereof is provided in a delivery system.

11. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 10, wherein the delivery system is selected from microparticles and liposomes.

12. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active compound is covalently attached to a moiety that forms an inclusion complex with the inclusion host.

13. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 1, further comprising at least one adjuvant.

14. (previously presented) The polymer composition of claim 3, further comprising an adjuvant that increases the effectiveness of the biologically active agent.

15. (previously presented) A polymer composition comprising:
a biocompatible, biodegradable polymer including a plurality of inclusion hosts, and
linking molecules, each linking molecule comprising at least two moieties that form inclusion complexes with the inclusion hosts,
wherein the linking molecules crosslink the polymer through inclusion complexes.

16. (previously presented) A polymer composition comprising:
a biocompatible polymer including a plurality of inclusion hosts, and
linking molecules, each linking molecule comprising at least three moieties that form inclusion complexes with the inclusion hosts,
wherein the linking molecules crosslink the polymer through inclusion complexes.

17. (previously presented) A polymer composition comprising:
a biocompatible polymer including a plurality of cyclodextrin moieties, and

linking molecules, each linking molecule comprising at least two moieties that form inclusion complexes with the cyclodextrin moieties,

wherein each cyclodextrin moiety has no more than two bonds to the polymer backbone, and the linking molecules crosslink the polymer through inclusion complexes.

18. (withdrawn) A therapeutic composition comprising a) a biocompatible polymer including a plurality of inclusion hosts, b) linking molecules, each linking molecule comprising at least two moieties that form inclusion complexes with the inclusion hosts, and c) a therapeutic agent, wherein the linking molecules crosslink the polymer.

19. (withdrawn) A method for preparing a crosslinked polymer, comprising combining a linear, biocompatible polymer including inclusion hosts with linking molecules, each linking molecule comprising at least two moieties that form inclusion complexes with the inclusion hosts.

20. (withdrawn) A method of claim 19, wherein the inclusion hosts are cyclodextrins.

21. (withdrawn) A method of claim 19, wherein the polymer and linking molecules are combined in the presence of a biologically active agent.

22. (withdrawn) A method of claim 21, wherein the biologically active agent is covalently linked to a moiety that forms an inclusion complex with the inclusion hosts.

23. (withdrawn) A method for preparing a crosslinked polymer, comprising combining a polymer including inclusion guests with linking molecules, each linking molecule comprising at least two inclusion hosts that form inclusion complexes with the inclusion guests.

24. (withdrawn) A method of claim 23, wherein the inclusion hosts are cyclodextrin.

25. (withdrawn) A method of claim 23, wherein the polymer and linking molecules are combined in the presence of a biologically active agent.

26. (withdrawn) A method of treating a disease, comprising administering to a patient an agent suitable for treating the disease in combination with a polymer composition of claim 1.

27. (withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the disease is cancer.

28. (withdrawn) A method of treating a wound, comprising applying to the wound a polymer composition of claim 1.

29. (withdrawn) The method of claim 28, wherein the composition further comprises a therapeutic agent.

30. (withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the agent is a nucleic acid encoding PDGF-B.

31. (previously presented) The polymer of claim 31, wherein the linking molecules crosslink the polymer intramolecularly.

32. (previously presented) The polymer of claim 31, wherein the linking molecules crosslink the polymer intermolecularly.

33. (previously presented) The polymer of claim 1, wherein the linking molecules and the polymer are distinct molecules.

34. (previously presented) The polymer of claim 1, wherein the linking molecules crosslink the polymer solely through the inclusion complexes.

35. (new) The polymer composition of claim 2, wherein the cyclodextrin moieties are within the polymer chain.

36. (new) The polymer composition of claim 2, wherein the cyclodextrin moieties are appended to the polymer chain.